

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
TAXATION COMMITTEE
50TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 13, 1987

The meeting of the Taxation Committee was called to order by Chairman Ramirez on January 13, 1987, at 9 a.m. in Room 312B of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present with the exception of Rep. Harp, who was excused. Also present was Dave Bohyer, Researcher, Legislative Council.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 17: Rep. Richard Nelson, House District #6, said the Bill would add outpatient surgical clinics to those medical care facilities exempted from taxation. Rep. Nelson told the Committee he would like to amend the bill on page 2, line 8, to insert "licensed" before "outpatient".

Rep. Nelson provided committee members with brochures on three free-standing outpatient clinics in Bozeman, Butte, and Kalispell (Exhibits #1a, 1b, and 1c). He explained that outpatient surgery can save from 60-70% of the costs of hospitalization and that approximately 40% of surgery can be done on an outpatient basis.

Rep. Nelson advised the Committee that the Bozeman outpatient clinic appealed to the State Tax Appeals Board (STAB), and received favorable findings. He said the clinic is staffed by 35 physicians, 6 nurses, and is similarly equipped to that of a hospital.

Rep. Nelson told committee members such clinics appear to lower medical care costs, and said the decrease in stated revenue would be approximately \$10,000 annually.

PROPOSERS: There were no proponents of HB 17.

OPPOSERS: Mr. James Ahrens, President, Montana Hospital Association, told the Committee that most hospitals are exempt under IR (Internal Revenue) Code 5013(c) and are listed as charitable organizations. He said that in 1985, Montana hospitals provided \$1.5 million or \$26,000 per hospital in Charity, and wrote off \$13 million in bad debts, as they agreed to treat all patients without regard to ability to pay. (Exhibit #1d)

Mr. Ahrens explained that for-profit hospitals pay property and income taxes, but he believes for-profit outpatient clinics do not meet the same criteria as hospitals, as they are not open 365 days per year, 24 hours per day. He said

outpatient surgery centers are analogous to dental offices and should not be exempted from taxation. He urged the Committee to give the bill a Do Not Pass recommendation.

Dave Hartman, Executive Secretary, Montana Education Association, said his organization oppose that bill on the basis that it is an erosion of the property tax base in removing private, for-profit operations from tax rolls.

COMMENTS ON HOUSE BILL NO. 17: Greg Groepper, Administrator, Property Assessment Division, DOR, advised committee members there could be an interpretation struggle with pending court issues, and said proper amendments would make DOR's work clear.

QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 17: Rep. Sands asked Mr. Ahrens if some hospitals operated on a for-profit basis. Mr. Ahrens replied that Missoula General Hospital was the only for-profit hospital in Montana.

Rep. Williams asked Mr. Groepper to clarify the pending STAB case. Mr. Groepper replied the case is in district court and concerns the outpatient center in Bozeman.

Rep. Ellison asked Mr. Groepper how DOR would be affected if the Taxation Committee killed HB 17, and the court denied the Bozeman outpatient center appeal. Mr. Groepper replied the Department has the responsibility to withdraw the case from appeal in that situation.

Rep. Sands asked if for-profit hospitals pay property taxes. Mr. Groepper replied that if such a hospital applied for an exemption, DOR would have to grant it.

Rep. Sands asked if walk-in clinics qualified for a similar exemption. Mr. Groepper replied he didn't know if walk-in clinics are licensed or not, but the exemption list becomes smaller when such facilities are required to be licensed. He added that Montana law has not designated between non-profit and for-profit hospitals for property tax purposes.

Rep. Hoffman asked if a similar application for a veterinarian hospital would be accepted. Mr. Groepper replied he was unaware of any existing veterinarian hospitals, adding it is an excellent example of what could come up.

Rep. Williams asked if there were a problem with the definition of a hospital. Mr. Groepper replied the problem is whether an outpatient surgical center is or is not a

hospital. He said the situation remains unresolved for the present.

CLOSING: Rep. Nelson told the Committee lines 6-8 on page 2, refer only to hospitals, and said the bill may need to be amended to indicate non-profit or for-profit facilities. He asked the Committee to give the bill a favorable recommendation.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 91: Representative Harriet Hayne, House District 10, told the Committee her bill is not a request for state funding, but one to continue the voluntary funding of the Agriculture in Montana Schools (AMS) program as it exists. (Exhibit #2)

PROPONENTS: Nina Baucus, President, Agriculture in Montana Schools, advised committee members that Montana is a leader in the national Agriculture in the Classroom Program, and is one of the few states using only grants and donations. She said the program has been voluntarily supported by Montanans since 1981, and has been an overwhelming success. She explained that teachers are begging for more materials, creating the need for a tax check-off on tax returns.

Lorna Frank, Montana Farm Bureau, asked the Committee to give the bill favorable recommendation. (Exhibit #3)

Bruce Moeres, Montana School Boards Association, stated the AMS program is a valuable resource to Montana schools, and is used in teacher training and certification. He asked the Committee to support the bill.

Jo Bruner, Montana Cattle Feeders and Cattleman stated her support of the bill.

Kay Norenberg, WIFE, stated her organizations' support of HB 91.

Carol Mosher, Montana Cattlewomen, told the Committee her organization helped start the program. She urged committee members to support the bill.

Mr. Terry Murphy, Montana Farmers Union, stated his support of the bill.

Dave Hartman, Montana Education Association, urged the Committee to give the bill a Do Pass recommendation.

Debi Brammer, Montana Association of Conservation Districts, asked the Committee to support the bill.

Ralph Peck, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture, urged committee support of the bill.

Bob Stevens, Montana Grain Growers, stated his support of the bill.

Bob Vandervere, Helena, representing himself, asked the Committee to support the bill.

OPPONENTS: There were no opponents of HB 91.

QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE BILL 91: Rep. Ream asked if there are other sources of funding for the AMS program. Nina Baucus replied the program receives grants and donations from membership dues of related organizations, and income from the tax check-off. She said the tax check-off provided one-fourth of the income received in 1986.

CLOSING: Rep. Hayne explained that the AMS program is run by unpaid volunteers.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO.102: Rep. Ed Grady, House District #47, told the Committee his bill addresses the weed problem in the state. He said the bill would generate \$355,000 annually for the noxious weed fund, from a motor vehicle assessment fee. (Exhibit #3a)

Rep. Grady explained that an administration fee may be necessary, but was not included in the bill. He stated that bona fide weed districts can apply to the Department of Agriculture for financial assistance in fighting the noxious weed problem.

PROPONENTS: Charlie Hahnkamp, Melrose, Montana, showed committee members two 4' x 6' maps denoting the spread of knapweed along Montana highways and ground susceptible to knapweed. He said the first knapweed project consisted of 35 square miles in Silver Bow, which has grown to 600 square miles of coordinated project. He said the project received a \$40,000 grant last year, providing 50% of project funding.

Mr. Hahnkamp explained that the remaining balance for project funds is \$31,000, but there are requests for \$804,000 in project funds. He said knapweed growth is estimated at 27% per year and that one flower contains approximately 1,500 seeds. He commented he has hopes of establishing a fireline in the state.

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Mr. Hahnkamp stated the weeds must be sprayed with the proper chemicals to be killed. He said vehicles carry knapweed all over the state. He urged the Committee to vote favorably on the bill while knapweed can still be killed along the highways.

Kim Enkerud, Montana Stockgrowers, provided committee members with written testimony, (Exhibit #4), and urged them to give the bill a Do Pass recommendation.

Robert Vandervere, Helena, told the Committee he is a concerned citizen lobbyist and urged them to vote for the bill.

Debi Bramer, Montana Association of Conservation Districts, read from written testimony in support of the bill (Exhibit #5).

Reeves Petroff, Montana Weed Control Association, told the Committee his organization supports HB 102. He said noxious weeds are degrading to natural resources, and that the noxious weed trust fund is endangered, as it is not adequately funded to fund weed control projects. (Exhibit #5a)

Mr. Petroff said he believes a 50 cent tax is fair as vehicles spread noxious weeds. He commented that logging trucks create a major problem in that they carry knapweed to forested areas. Mr. Petroff explained there are 18,000 residents of Gallatin County who are not actively participating in the knapweed program at present.

Bill Murphy, rancher, Garrison and Powell Counties Weed Control Group, stated Powell County received \$45,000 in grants last year and expended more than \$100,000 of private funds.

George Ochenski, Montana Environmental Information Center, stated he wished to address the problems with expenditures. He said he could support a 1.6 mill on a cost-share basis, as the weed problem is severe. He said he would like to request a research and development fund for biological control of the weeds to alleviate use of herbicides.

Mr. Ochenski commented that \$1 million from Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) went to weed control last session. He suggested an amendment that would provide 25% of collections for a biological control and research development program.

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Joe Hand, Secretary-Treasurer, Montana Irrigation Society, said he was disappointed the contribution is not greater than 50 cents. He stated there is a need for all vehicle operators to read a booklet on spotted knapweed (Exhibit #6). Mr. Hand told committee members there are 4,000 miles of ditches in Lewis and Clark County along 2,000 miles of roads.

Maynard Smith, rancher, Glenn, Montana, told the Committee he owns rangeland adjacent to the Butte-Dillon knapweed project, and that he hired a helicopter to spray his land with herbicide provided by the fund.

Walter Steingruber, Willow Creek rancher, and member of Agricultural Stabilization Group in Gallatin County, stated his support of the bill and said he believes interstate travelers should also contribute to knapweed funding.

Dave Pack, Butte-Silver Bow Weed Board explained that the trust fund is funding biological control experiments now. He said the bill can become too complicated and needs to be kept simple.

Lorna Frank, Montana Farm Bureau, urged committee support of the bill (Exhibit #7).

Jim McCauley, Jefferson County Commissioner, told the committee he supported the bill and said two mills do not adequately fund the weed program.

Douglas Schmitz, Jefferson County Commissioner, stated that if the BLM (Bureau of Land Management), is not able to spray for knapweed, the problem will become even more difficult to control.

Ron Scofield, Helena Valley Irrigation District, stated his support of the bill.

Esther Stenberg, Montana Wildlife Federation, told the Committee she supported the bill with the proposed amendment (Exhibit #8).

Carol Mosher, Montana Cattle Women, stated her support of the bill.

Bob Stephen, Montana Grain Growers, stated his support of the bill.

Kay Norenberg, Montana WIFE (Women Involved in Farm Economics), stated her support of the bill.

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Neil Peterson, Madison County Weed Control Program, told the Committee the program works and asked for their support.

John Allhands, Madison County Commissioner, advised the Committee his area checked more than 4,000 vehicles during hunting season, each of which could have carried knapweed to a new area. He stated it is essential that this fee be placed on motor vehicles.

Mr. Leo Mock, Butte-Silver Bow Weed Control Supervisor, stated his support of the bill.

Rep. Joan Miles, House District #45, told the Committee the bill is modeled after junk vehicle legislation, enacted in 1973, and that there are some problems as larger agricultural vehicles are exempted by the bill. She commented it doesn't make sense not to include those vehicles, adding that there are no junk vehicle fees on motorcycle or snowmobiles now. Rep. Miles stated she would support the bill if it included all motor vehicles.

Jim Stone, Powell County rancher, showed the Committee pictures of an area prior to knapweed spraying and one year later. He did not leave the pictures as an exhibit.

David Mannix, rancher, and member of Helmville Valley Weed Control Program, stated his support of the bill.

David A. Stewart, Snow-Line Grazing Association, said the forest service contracts with road builders who bring knapweed into new areas on their equipment. He suggested construction equipment be included in the bill.

Bill Garrison, rancher, and President of the Northwest Stockgrowers Association, stated his support of the bill.

Jack Nelson, Granite County rancher, said spraying is the only means of controlling noxious weeds today. He stated it is a problem to every citizen of the state and proposed using the slogan "Save Montana".

Rep. Jack Sands, House District #90, read a statement from a constituent, O.J. Dever, in support of the bill.

Sen. Tom Beck, Senate District #24, asked to be shown as a proponent of HB 102.

COMMENTS ON HOUSE BILL NO. 102: Cort Harrington, representing the County Treasurers Association, told the

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Committee there may be problems for county treasurers, as the bill will create additional duties. He said 23 automated counties need to hire outside help to add such programs to their systems. He suggested the Committee survey the situation now to ascertain those costs.

QUESTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE: Rep. Ream asked Rep. Grady if there were a fiscal note for the bill. Rep. Grady replied the fiscal note had just been received.

Rep. Ream asked Rep. Grady if he agreed that it seemed all vehicle owners should participate in the program. Rep. Grady replied that loggers are paying their fair share now. He requested the Committee hold action on the bill until the county treasurers can estimate their costs.

Rep. Patterson asked Rep. Grady if agricultural people pay a surcharge for weed spraying. Rep. Grady replied that \$250,000 would be collected this year in chemical purchase surcharge. He commented that, as a farmer himself, he wouldn't mind paying 50 cents per vehicle.

Rep. Ream asked if there were any opposition to amending the bill to include all vehicles. Rep. Grady replied it was amenable to him, and added there needs to be a permanent program to alleviate bringing the situation before the legislature each session.

Rep. Raney said he hoped funds would be provided for biological research and that the Committee would look at railroad rights-of-way.

Rep. Ellison stated the Soil Conservation District is spraying railroad right-of-way in Sweet Grass County now. Rep. Grady added that the railroad, (BN), has been very cooperative.

Rep. Asay asked how district funds would be received. Rep. Grady replied they would be received in the same manner in which they are at the present.

Rep. Sands asked if Yellowstone County received funding. Rep. Grady replied that Yellowstone County has a project area.

Rep. Raney asked if 25% of funds received go to research and development. Celestine Lacey, Weed Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, replied they do, but it is not

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mandated by statute.

CLOSING: Rep. Grady told the Committee the program needs a good funding source. He said he would hate to clutter the bill with too many amendments, and advised the Committee he sponsored another bill covering recreational vehicles.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.



Representative Jack Ramirez,
Chairman

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TYPES OF OUTPATIENT SURGERY

The Flathead Outpatient Surgical Center offers a setting for selected medical and surgical procedures, including the following abbreviated list:

GYNECOLOGY:

Laparoscopy, D & C, Tubal Ligation

UROLOGY:

Cystoscopy, Vasectomy

ORTHOPEDICS:

Arthroscopy, Hand Surgery

EAR, NOSE and THROAT

T & A, Ear Tubes, Nasal Reconstruction

OPHTHALMOLOGY:

Cataract Surgery, Tear Duct Probing,

Eye Muscle Surgery

GENERAL SURGERY:

Hernia Repair, Breast Biopsies

ORAL SURGERY:

Impacted Teeth

PLASTIC SURGERY:

Cosmetic and Reconstructive Procedures

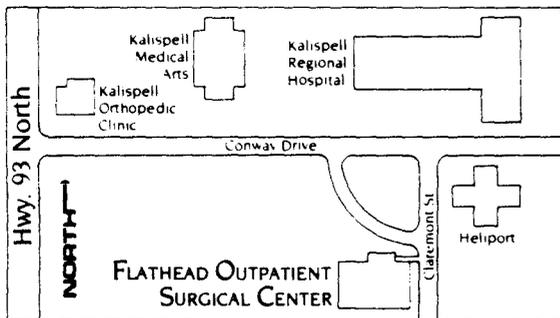
DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES:

Bronchoscopy, Esophagoscopy, Gastroscopy,

Colonoscopy

ASK YOUR DOCTOR

The concept of outpatient surgery requires careful selection of surgical candidates. Consult your doctor about the extent of your proposed surgery. Ask if it could be performed appropriately and safely as an outpatient. Ask him if this surgery is one which can be performed in the Surgical Center.



66 CLAREMONT STREET KALISPELL, MONTANA 59901 (406) 752-8484



MD 11 /
1-13-87
Ex #15

The Flathead Outpatient Surgical Center was developed as a result of the growing demand for outpatient surgical services. This center is an excellent facility for outpatient surgeries and diagnostic procedures, many of which require general anesthesia. The center was conceived and developed by local physicians and surgeons in response to needs of their patients. Striving to continue the tradition of excellence in medical care, the staff invites you to use the facility for your surgical health care.

66 CLAREMONT STREET
KALISPELL, MONTANA 59901
(406) 752-8484

KEY FEATURES:

Quality Care
Exclusively Outpatient Surgery
Relaxed Environment

Reasonable Cost
Convenient Scheduling
Fully Equipped and Licensed

QUALITY CARE

The staff of the Surgical Center will function at the direction of your surgeon, who will be in charge of your care. A physician anesthesiologist, if required, will conduct a medical evaluation before operations under general anesthesia, and will supervise the recovery period. A team of specially trained registered nurses will assist the physicians in your care.

CONVENIENCE

Because no emergency surgery will be performed in the Surgical Center, your procedure can be scheduled for your maximum convenience with minimal waiting to allow you to return home as soon as possible. Minimal paperwork allows us to provide efficient registration and discharge procedures.

PLEASANT ATMOSPHERE

The Surgical Center was designed with you, the patient, in mind. It is tastefully decorated to offer a warm personalized setting for your comfort during your brief stay. Children are treated with special attention. There is a special recovery lounge for families to be with patients during the final phase of recovery.

REDUCED COST

Because overhead costs are lower, competitive fees can be offered. You will have a single all-inclusive charge for your procedure so you can have complete understanding of the total cost of your care before surgery.

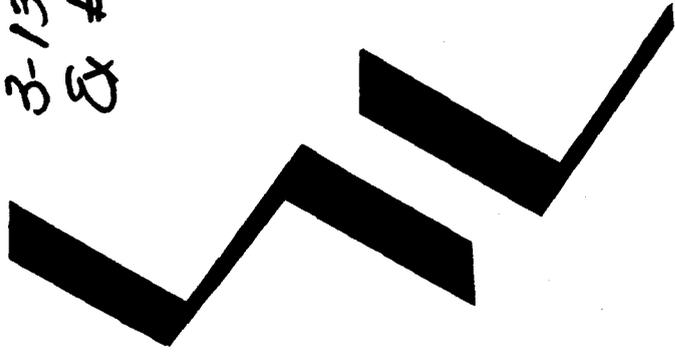
HEALTH INSURANCE

Nearly all major insurance companies strongly favor outpatient surgery. You can expect improved reimbursement and occasional waivers of deductible amounts. Medicare reimburses 100% for many operations.

FULLY EQUIPPED AND LICENSED

The Surgical Center offers two fully equipped operating rooms, a separate procedure and treatment room for local anesthesia and two recovery areas which are inspected and licensed by the State of Montana, assuring highest quality professional care.

MD 111
3-13-87
Ex #1a



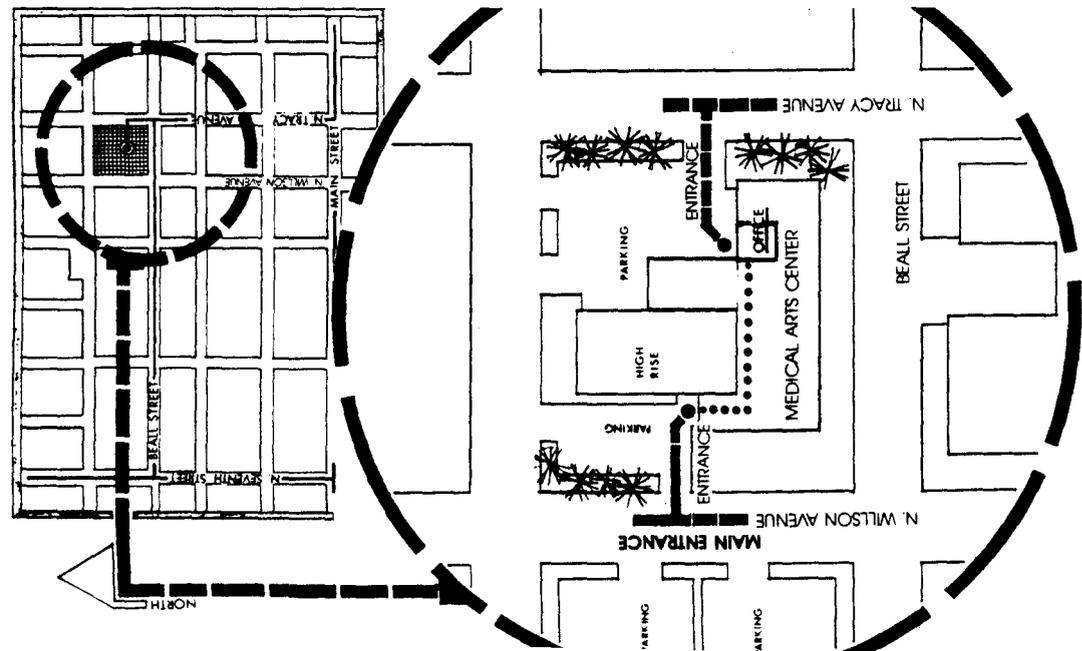
SAME DAY SURGERY CENTER

Gallatin Outpatient Clinic

300 North Willson
Bozeman, Montana
59715

(406) 586-1956

SAME DAY SURGERY CENTER
Gallatin Outpatient Clinic, Inc.
300 North Willson
Bozeman, MT 59715



SAME DAY SURGERY CENTER
Gallatin Outpatient Clinic, Inc.
300 North Willson
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 586-1956

**QUALITY CARE
RELAXED ENVIRONMENT
REASONABLE COST**

Who Are We?

The Gallatin Outpatient Clinic, SAME DAY SURGERY CENTER, is an intermediate surgical facility which is independently owned and operated by local physicians and concerned citizens. The GOAL of the Center is to provide quality care in a relaxed atmosphere at a reasonable cost.

Our SAME DAY SURGERY CENTER is designed to serve patients who require surgical treatment exceeding the capability of the doctor's office, but who do not require hospitalization. Recuperation takes place in the comfort of your own home.

Where?

The Gallatin Outpatient Clinic, SAME DAY SURGERY CENTER is an addition to the Bozeman Medical Arts Center. This location provides convenience for the patient and the physician in a central location designed to utilize the existing services of the Medical Arts Building, such as x-ray, lab, pharmacy, nuclear medicine, physical therapy, etc.

Staffing

The surgeon of your choice will be in charge of your care. An anesthesiologist (M.D.) is on hand for procedures requiring his services. The anesthesiologist will also conduct the medical evaluation before operations under general anesthesia and will supervise the recovery period. A team of specially trained nurses and technicians will assist the physicians.

Use of the Surgery Center

Convenience — Less paper work enables us to provide you with efficient registration and discharge procedures.

Reduced Costs — You pay less because overhead costs are lower in SAME DAY SURGERY, and the savings are passed on to the patient. You will have a single, all-inclusive charge for your procedure, so you can have a clear understanding of the total cost of your medical care before surgery.

Health Insurance — Most major insurance companies favor outpatient surgery. You can expect improved reimbursement and often waivers of deductibles. Medicare reimburses 100% for many operations.

Fully Equipped and Licensed — Our facilities are approved by Medicare and licensed by the State of Montana. We have fully equipped operating rooms, pediatric and adult waiting and recovery areas — the same quality, professional care you'd receive in a hospital.

Especially for Children — Children experience less stress because our center offers a warm, personalized setting. We pay particular attention to their needs, allowing parents to stay with their children right up to the time of surgery and, then again, in our special recovery room.

What Can Be Done?

The following abbreviated list will give you an idea of the procedures which can be performed at the SAME DAY SURGERY CENTER:

GYN: Diagnostic D&C, tubal ligations, laparoscopies.

ORTHOPEDECS: Arthroscopy, tendon surgery, hand surgery.

E.N.T.: Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy, laryngoscopy, ear tube placement.

OPHTHALMOLOGY: Cataract with and without implant, eye muscle surgery, tear duct probing.

UROLOGY: Cystoscopy, vasectomy, vasectomy reversal.

GENERAL SURGERY: Hernia repairs, biopsies.

DENTISTRY: Oral surgery, pediatric dentistry, periodontics.

GENERAL MEDICINE: Transfusions, chemotherapy.

Consult your doctor for additional outpatient surgical procedures.

Ask Your Doctor

Consult him about the extent of your surgery. Ask if it can be performed appropriately and safely as an outpatient... ask him if this surgery is one which can be performed at the SAME DAY SURGERY CENTER.

EXHIBIT # 1-d
DATE 1-13-87
HB 17



Montana Hospital Association

(406) 442-1911 • P.O. BOX 5119 • HELENA, MONTANA 59604

January 13, 1987

TESTIMONY ON H.B. 17 - EXEMPT OUTPATIENT SURGICAL CENTERS FROM TAXES

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I am James F. Ahrens, president of the Montana Hospital Association.

Traditionally, categories of organizations have been considered exempt from the payment of income and property taxes. Organizations that serve some public purpose have received this tax exemption. The Internal Revenue code, for example, describes these types of organizations as non-profit corporations such as charitable religious and educational institutions, civic leagues and social clubs.

Most hospitals are exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue code 501(c)(3). They are considered charitable organizations. In order to gain the exemption a hospital must complete an application proving that it is not-for-profit and that it is a charitable organization. Hospitals provide charity care over and above their normal bad debt experience. Last year (1985) Montana hospitals provided \$1,580,520 in charity care or an average of \$26,788 per hospital. Additionally, Montana hospitals wrote-off \$13,504,722 in bad debts or an average of \$228,894 per hospital.

Montana not-for-profit hospitals agree, by board resolution or by law, to treat all patients without regard to ability to pay. The non-profit status and the primary interest in fulfilling a healing mission is what makes hospitals charitable institutions.

Certainly, not all hospitals are non-profit. Those that are not do not receive the IRS exemption. Non-profit hospitals do not receive the IRS exemption simply because they are hospitals. They receive the exemption because they have a charitable purpose. Their profits do not inure to the benefit of specific individuals; they serve a charitable purpose. Those hospitals that are for-profit do not meet the charitable institution test and must pay income tax.

For-profit outpatient surgical centers do not meet the test of being a charitable organization. They do not care for a broad category of sick and injured, but rather cater to a small section of the medical maladies that confront a medical system. Hospitals are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to care for patients. Outpatient surgical centers have regular hours. When their work is done, they go home. It would seem to me that part of the purpose of the tax exemption for hospitals is a societal payment to an organization that stands ready at all times to care for the less fortunate of society.

To me an outpatient surgical center is analagous to a dentist or an oral surgeon's office. If an uncomplicated procedure, such as a root canal or extraction of a wisdom tooth, can safely be performed in the office, it is. If the dental case is somewhat more complicated, say the total extraction of all of a patient's teeth at one time, it is likely that patient would be admitted to the hospital for the procedure. Outpatient surgical centers are the same. They only perform the surgical procedures that are safe to do in an outpatient setting. Some of those procedures used to be performed in doctors' offices.

Mr. Chairman, I submit that exempting outpatient surgical centers from property tax would set a dangerous precedent, with dental offices, physicians' offices, optometrists and others asking for the exemption next on the same grounds.

This bill, as proposed, would exempt the property of for-profit outpatient surgical centers from taxation. For-profit corporations should not be exempt from taxation. This is a dangerous precedent setting bill. If this bill passes, the precedent set will urge other private offices to seek similar exemptions. Where will it end?

I urge the Committee to vote Do Not Pass on H.B. 17.

Thank you.

TESTIMONY OF MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOR THE HOUSE TAXATION COMMITTEE
ON HOUSE BILL 91
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1987
HELENA, MONTANA

EXHIBIT # 2
DATE 1-13-87
HB 91

Chairman McCallum, members of the Committee, the Department of Agriculture is happy to support continuation of the very successful Agriculture in Montana Schools Program.

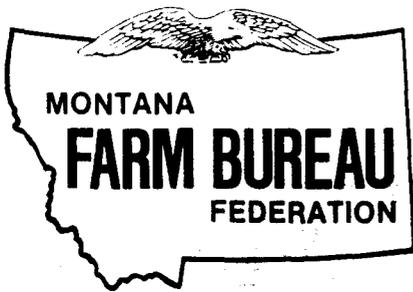
The income tax checkoff to support the Agriculture in Montana Schools Program generated \$13,309 from 1985 income tax returns. Although, this is not a huge amount of money, I believe it demonstrates support for the Montana Program.

Agriculture in Montana Schools consists of a dedicated coalition of volunteers representing the agricultural industry in Montana. It is affiliated with the national project of Agriculture in the classroom, sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture in an effort to get the basic concepts of agriculture back into our existing school curricula already being taught, not by adding additional classes or new areas of study.

Nina Baucus, president of Agriculture in Montana Schools aptly stated the goals of the program when she recently said; "WE DON'T WANT TO TEACH STUDENTS TO BE FARMERS AND RANCHERS,' RATHER, THE GOAL OF THE PROGRAM IS FOR STUDENTS TO UNDERSTAND THE VITAL ROLE OF FARMERS AND RANCHERS IN AMERICAN SOCIETY.

THE STUDENTS OF TODAY ARE THE POLICY MAKERS AND LAWMAKERS OF TOMORROW AND IT'S IMPORTANT THAT THEY HAVE A GREATER APPRECIATION OF AGRICULTURE THAN DO POLICYMAKERS AND LAWMAKERS OF TODAY."

The Montana Department of Agriculture asks your support of HB91.



502 South 19th

Bozeman, Montana 59715

Phone (406) 587-3153

TESTIMONY BY: Lorna Frank

BILL # H.B. -- 91 DATE 1/13/87

SUPPORT XXX OPPOSE _____

#3
1-13-87
91

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, my name is Lorna Frank, representing Montana Farm Bureau.

Montana Farm Bureau is one of the ag organizations that helped get AMS started. We supported this program 2 years ago and still support it.

We hope this committee and the legislature will also support H.B. 91 and AMS by passing this bill for permanent continuation of the income tax checkoff.

Thank you for allowing me this time.

SIGNED: _____

EXHIBIT #3a
DATE 1-13-87
HB 102

Montana's Noxious Weed Trust Fund
and Cooperative Weed Management Programs

Introduction:

The Noxious Weed Trust Fund Act was approved by the 1985 Montana legislature. The purpose of the act is two-fold: (1) To provide technical and financial assistance to cooperative weed management projects; and (2) To establish a permanent trust fund for continuation of the weed management effort. The Trust Fund is administered through the State Department of Agriculture.

Funding:

Initial funding for the Trust fund was from a \$1 million dollar grant through Montana's Resource Indemnity Trust Fund (RIT). Half of the grant was used to establish the permanent trust account and half was used to fund top-ranked weed proposals submitted under the RIT program.

The trust fund and weed management programs will be perpetuated by a 1 percent herbicide surcharge. This tax will generate an estimated \$250,000.00 annually, half of which builds the permanent trust account and half funds grant requests for cooperative weed management projects. Within 10 years, the trust fund is expected to reach \$2.5 million. The interest income generated from this fund, in addition to the herbicide surcharge, will provide an estimated \$500,000.00 annually to help fund weed education and control programs in the state.

Application Procedure:

Money is issued on a cost-share basis to counties or community action groups that submit a grant request. The grant application period is from November 1 to December 15. All requests are reviewed by the Noxious Weed Advisory Council. This council is composed of eight members representing various interests in the state: Donna Pratt, crop; Charles Hahnkamp, livestock; Jim Richard, sportsman/wildlife; Joe Widhalm, dealer/applicator; Martha Dow, consumer; Bob Thoft, biocontrol; Wayne Pearson, Montana Weed Control Association; and John Teigan, at large member. Keith Kelly, Director of Dept. of Ag., serves as chairman of the committee. Application forms for the grants can be obtained from Celestine Lacey, Department of Agriculture, Capitol Station, Helena, MT 59620.

Cooperative Weed Projects Funded in 1985

The following nine projects were selected for funding based on DNRC's evaluation prior to the last legislative session.

| | | |
|----|--|-------------|
| 1. | Missoula County Conservation District "Biological Control of Noxious Weeds Using Fungus" | \$90,700.00 |
| 2. | Montana State University "A Program to Eradicate Dyer's Woad" | \$32,856.00 |
| 3. | Granite, Jefferson, Madison, and Butte-Silver Bow Counties "Southwest Montana Coop. Noxious Weed Control" | \$21,356.00 |
| 4. | Liberty, Toole, Glacier and Pondera Counties "Marias River Basin Weed Control Project" | \$62,000.00 |
| 5. | Bitterroot Conservation District "Demonstration of Savory Grazing Management for Weed Control" | \$5,000.00 |
| 6. | Little Beaver Conservation District and Fallon County Weed Board "Cottonwood Creek Knapweed Project" | \$14,739.00 |
| 7. | Lewis and Clark County Conservation District "Noxious Weed Inventory and Mapping Project" | \$12,000.00 |
| 8. | Roosevelt County Weed District "Coordinated Leafy Spurge Control Project" | \$43,038.00 |
| 9. | Little Beaver Conservation District and Fallon County Weed Board "Dugout Creek Leafy Spurge Control Project" | \$3,357.00 |

Cooperative Weed Projects Funded in 1986

Approved for funding based on recommendation of Noxious Weed Advisory Council.

| | | |
|-----|--|-------------|
| 1. | Gallatin County Weed District "Knapweed Coupon Cooperative" (Terminated) | \$7,500.00 |
| 2. | Park County Weed District "Knapweed Control District" | \$10,000.00 |
| 3. | Meagher County Weed District "Weed Mapping & Education" | \$7,500.00 |
| 4. | Park County Weed District "Rock Creek Leafy Spurge Project" | \$9,000.00 |
| 5. | Powell County Weed District "Coordinated Weed Project" | \$45,000.00 |
| 6. | Stillwater County Weed Control District "Noxious Weed Management Program" | \$1,600.00 |
| 7. | Stillwater County Weed Control District "Leafy Spurge Biological Control Project" | \$5,000.00 |
| 8. | Teton County Weed Control District "Pesticide Collection & Recycling Site" | \$1000.00 |
| 9. | Montana State University "Stimulating Uncontrolled Root Bud Growth in Leafy Spurge" | \$17,000.00 |
| 10. | Montana State University "Biocontrol of Leafy Spurge" | \$7,000.00 |
| 11. | Western Ag Research Center "Foreign Collection of 2 Insects for Biocontrol of Knapweed" | \$12,000.00 |
| 12. | Western Ag Research Center "Foreign Screening of 2 Insects for Biocontrol of Knapweed" | \$20,000.00 |

SUMMARY

NOXIOUS WEED TRUST FUND PROGRAM
JANUARY 9, 1987

Total funding received or committed to Department (FY86 FY87)

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Resource Indemnity Trust | \$1,000,000.00 |
| Herbicide Surcharge | 182,832.00 |
| Total | \$1,182,832.00 |

Revenue Expended:

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Projects (FY 86/87) | \$ 569,833.00 |
| Advisory Council | 10,000.00 |
| .25 FTE | 7,000.00 |
| Administration | 5,000.00 |
| Total | \$ 591,833.00 |

Permanent Trust Account

| | |
|--|---------------|
| RIT fund (\$410,975.00 deposited 12/15/87) | \$ 500,000.00 |
| Herbicide Surcharge | 91,416.00 |
| Interest Income (12/15/87) | 13,900.00 |
| Total | \$ 605,316.00 |

Projected Revenue FY 88

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| RIT | \$ 0.00 |
| Herbicide surcharge (1/2 to projects) | 250,000.00 |
| Total | \$ 250,000.00 |

Projected Revenue Expenditures FY 88

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Committed Projects | \$ 78,813.00 |
| Advisory Council | 10,000.00 |
| .25 FTE | 5,000.00 |
| Total | \$ 94,813.00 |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| ** Grant Request FY 88 | \$ 804,000.00 |
| Revenue Available for new grants FY 88 | 31,187.00 |

PROJECT BUDGET - FY 88 (For projects approved in FY 87)

Surcharge Collection:

Estimated Revenue \$125,000.00

Expenditures:

Advisory Council - 10,000.00
 .25 FTE - 5,000.00
 Committed projects - 78,913.00

Total Remaining for new projects FY 87/88 \$ 31,187.00

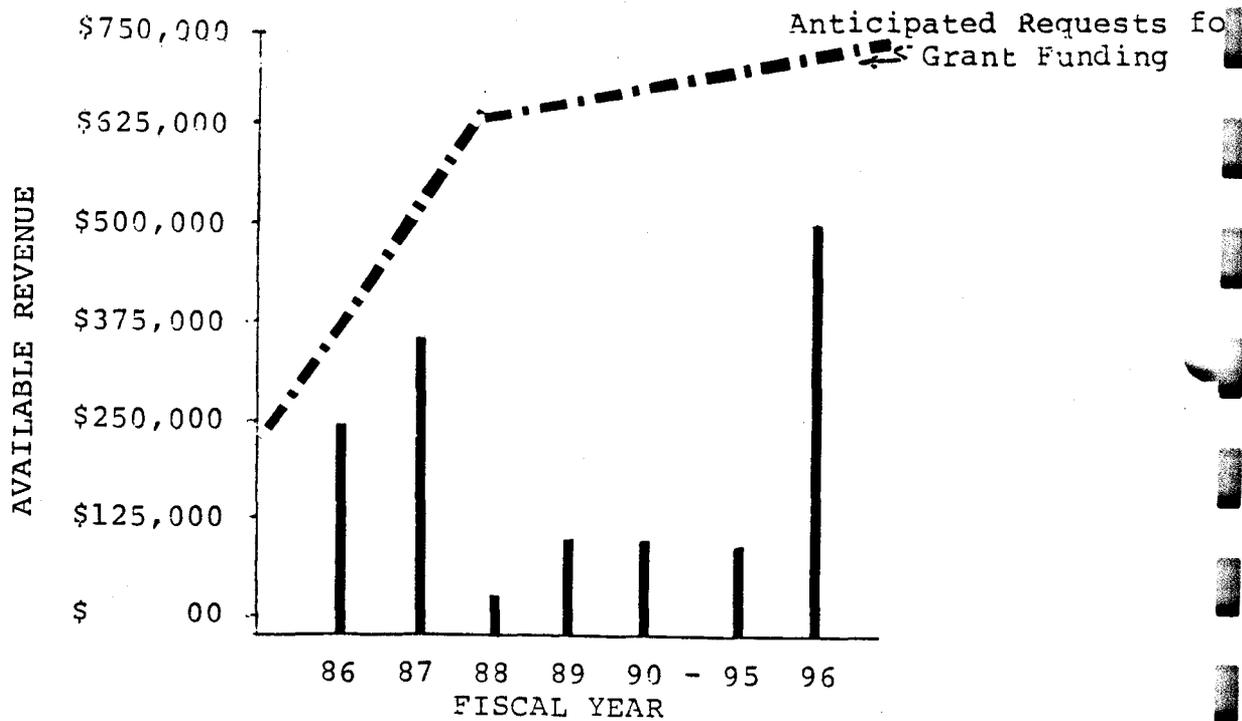


Figure 1: Available Revenue VS Requests for Grants. Available revenue by fiscal year is indicated by bars and anticipated requests for funds by the dashed line.

The problem we have is from 1988 through 1995, or until the interest income from the permanent trust is available. The shortfall during this period comes at a time when interest in the program is high.

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13-87
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EXHIBIT # 52
DATE 1-13-87
HB 102

MONTANA NOXIOUS WEED PROGRAM

FACT SHEET

1. Ninety-eight percent of spotted knapweed infestations occur along transportation corridors.
2. Vehicles have been cited as one of the major sources of spread of noxious weeds.
3. Once established on transportation corridors, weeds spread into adjacent crop and rangeland areas causing a substantial economic impact to Montana's agricultural producers.
4. County weed budgets are not adequate to address the noxious weed problem: 23% of the counties have weed budgets less than \$30,000 and 33% of the counties have weed budgets between \$31,000 and \$70,000.
5. Weeds on range and grazable woodland cost the state an estimated \$47 million annually.
6. Noxious weeds reduce forage production, increase erosion, increase production costs, and damage wildlife and livestock habitat.
7. Current revenue generated by the Noxious Weed Trust Fund is not adequate to meet the current weed problem:
 - * Annual revenue available for projects through the Weed Trust Fund Grant Program is \$110,000 for the next 9 to 10 years (\$31,000 available for new projects in FY 88).
 - * Grant requests for weed control projects in FY 88 are \$804,000.
 - * 21 projects have been funded to date for a total of \$569,833. Twenty-five percent of this revenue has been allocated to research/demonstration programs for biological control and 75 percent to cooperative weed management projects.
 - * Private landowners, corporations, county, and federal agencies have contributed about \$684,000 in matching funds toward cooperative Weed Trust Fund programs.
 - * Approximately 900 square miles are presently under cooperative weed control efforts.

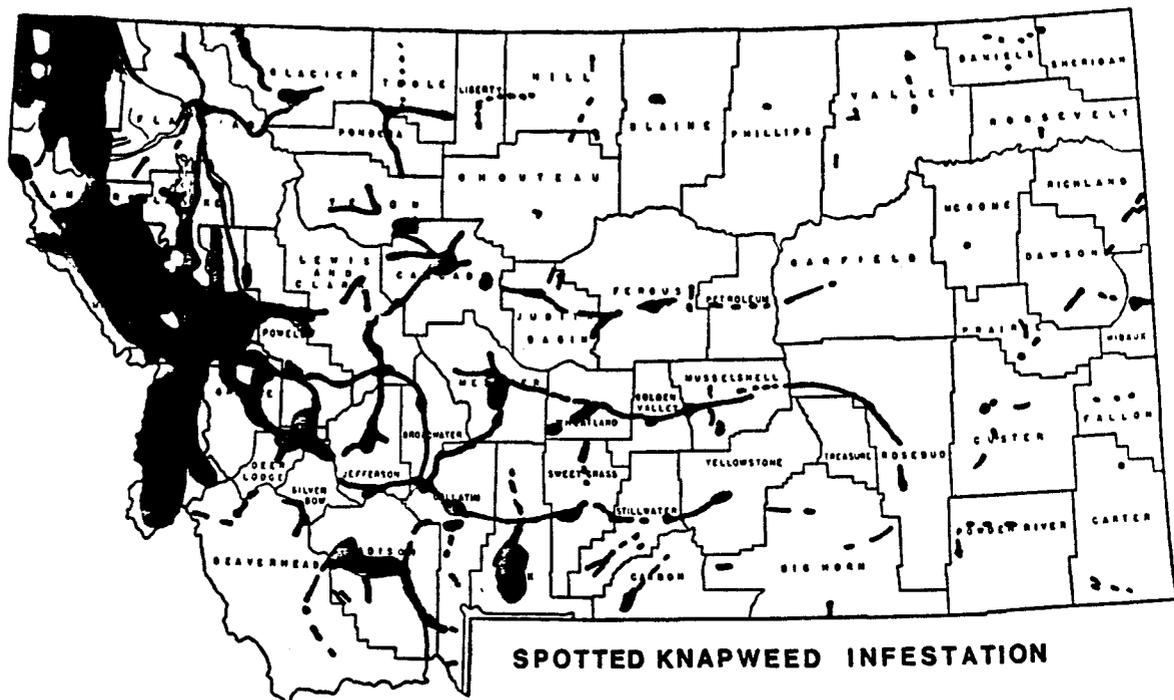


Figure 1 : The location of spotted knapweed infestations in Montana. Survey completed November, 1986 - 4.7 million acres.

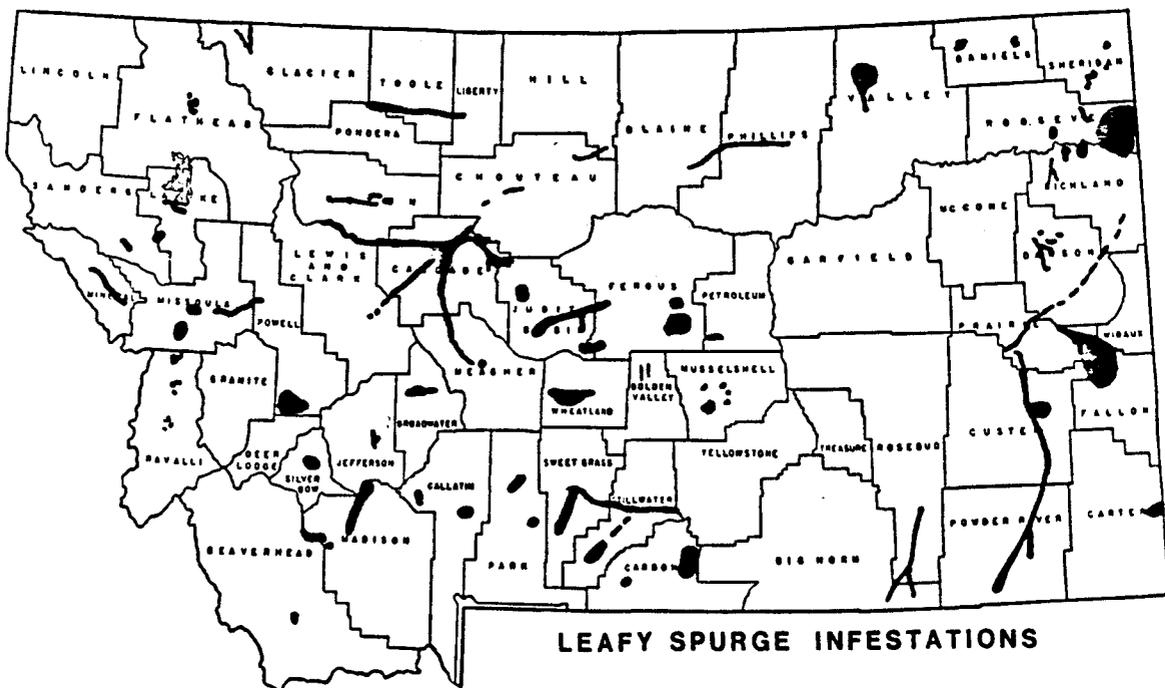


Figure 2 : The location of leafy spurge infestations in Montana. Survey completed November, 1986 - 500,000 acres.

TESTIMONY OF MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
FOR THE HOUSE TAXATION COMMITTEE ON
HOUSE BILL 102
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1987

Chairman Ramirez and Members of the Committee. House Bill 102 provides a realistic approach for securing revenue for cooperative weed control programs in Montana.

The introduction and spread of noxious weeds in the state is closely tied to transportation corridors. Movement of weeds from road rights-of-ways onto adjacent farm, range, and timber land is placing a substantial economic burden on Montana's agricultural community in addition to destroying valuable wildlife habitat. Since the movement of weeds is caused mainly by vehicles, House Bill 102 allows for all persons responsible for the weed problem to assist with control programs.

Revenue collected from a weed control fee on vehicles will be allocated through the grant program of the Noxious Weed Trust Fund. This grant program has proven to be a successful method for increasing awareness of noxious weeds, and promoting cooperative weed management projects. However, without additional revenue, the Trust Fund cannot provide adequate funding to address the weed problem. The Montana Association of Conservation Districts recommends full consideration of House Bill 102.

Good Morning.

DATE 1-13-87
HB 102

My name is Kim Enkerud and I am speaking on behalf of the Montana Stockgrowers, the Montana Association of State Grazing Districts, and the Montana Public Lands Council.

Noxious weeds are a real problem in the state of Montana. It is a problem the control of which should be shared by all.

Controlling weeds is an expensive endeavor. It is a program whose cost does not decrease, but increases. Most of the control thus far has come from those of us in agriculture. In many cases, control efforts have been futile. Especially when a producer has the noxious weeds at bay and the general public, whose vehicles carry the weed seeds, can drive into an area, deposit the seeds and re-infest the lands being controlled.

Because control is so expensive, and the agriculture economy is depressed it is unfair to have this group of people be solely responsible for the State of Montana. Weeds are taking over not only private agricultural lands, but also parks, waterways, recreation areas, and wildlife habitat, they can be found everywhere.

The public seems to be concerned about land lost to strip mining, super markets, shopping centers, and subdivisions. Do they realize that noxious weeds of infest and take out production more lands ~~than~~ than those items I mentioned above? 6.5 million acres of weed infestation is serious and it increases 27% each year.

If weeds are not controlled, the entire state could possibly be covered and that will affect everyone who lives and drives in this state.

We are in favor of this bill, because it does not single out one small group of people to supply the dollars to control noxious weeds, but involves the people of the entire state. 50¢ added on to each passenger car and truck under 8001 pounds is a small price to pay to keep Montana beautiful and productive.

Thank you

EXHIBIT #5a
DATE 1-13-87
HB 102

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MONTANA WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION



P.O. Box 4507
Helena, MT 59604

13 January 1987

MONTANA WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS HB 102

Vehicles are a major source of spread of noxious weeds in Montana. A \$.50 weed control fee on vehicles not only helps to contribute funding to the Noxious Weed Trust Fund, but allows all Montanans, not just certain groups or people, to help in the battle to save our natural resources from noxious weeds.

Under the Montana Constitution, Article 9, Section 1, the state and each person has the duty to maintain and improve a clean and healthful environment in Montana for present and future generations. The legislature is further mandated to provide adequate remedies for the protection of the environmental life support system from degradation. Noxious weeds are degrading. Noxious weeds upset the natural diversity of our native plant communities. Noxious weeds are a real threat to our natural resource base in Montana. The only practical way to combat this problem is through cooperation. The Noxious Weed Trust Fund helps to bring together Montanans who are willing to work together to combat this growing problem of noxious weeds.

The Montana Weed Control Association feels that monies generated from this \$.50 tax would best be distributed through the grant program of the Noxious weed Trust Fund. The trust fund has already provided cost-share funding for 21 cooperative projects across Montana since 1985. However, revenue generated from a herbicide surcharge will only be \$110,000 per year until 1996. Grant request for noxious weed control projects already exceeds \$800,000. Without additional funding, interest and enthusiasm that has been generated for cooperative noxious weed control projects will be decreased. Lack of funding will also slow the progress that has been made controlling noxious weeds for the past seven years.

All persons living in Montana have the right to a clean and healthful environment. They also have the right of pursuing life's basic necessities: enjoying and defending their lives and liberties, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and seeking their safety, health and happiness in lawful ways. In enjoying these rights, all persons also have corresponding responsibilities. In order to protect our land from noxious weeds, we need tools that work. A fully funded Noxious Weed Trust Fund is one such tool that works for every Montanan.

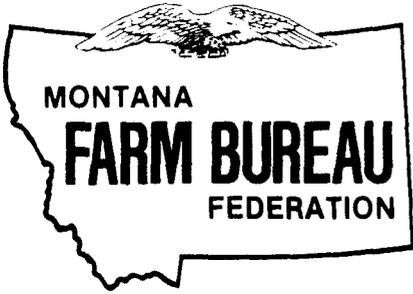
Controlling Pasture and Range Weeds in Montana

14387
50¢
Ex #6
16/02



Cooperative Extension Service
Montana State University, Bozeman
February 1957 Bulletin 307

102
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P.O. Box 6400
~~502 South 19th~~

Bozeman, Montana 59715
Phone (406) 587-3153

TESTIMONY BY: Lorna Frank
BILL # H.B. - 102 DATE 1/13/87
SUPPORT XXX OPPOSE _____

CREDIT # 7
DATE 1-13-87
HB 102

Mr. Chairman, members of the Taxation Committee, for the record my name Lorna Frank, representing Montana Farm Bureau.

Farm Bureau supports H.B. 102. Weed control and the cost should be a concern of everyone not just the farmers and ranchers.

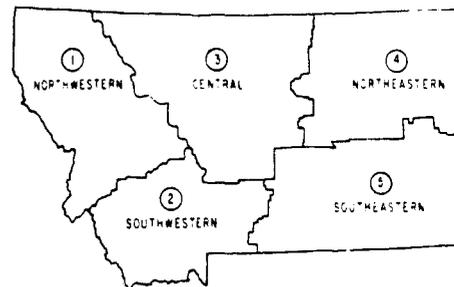
House Bill 102 will help by making more money available for this badly needed program. Our concern is that the money collected will go towards weed control and not some other program.

Thank you for allowing me to present our views and I urge this committee to recommend a do pass on House Bill 102.

SIGNED: Lorna Frank

Montana Wildlife Federation

AFFILIATE OF NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION



MONTANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Testimony on HB 102

House Taxation Committee

January 13, 1987

Mr. Chairman, honorable members of the Committee, the Montana Wildlife Federation stands in support of HB 102.

The Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF), comprised of 4600 members is a statewide conservation organization dedicated to promoting wildlife, wildlife habitat and sportsmen's interests.

MWF believes that a 50¢ fee on motor vehicles is the fairest way to raise money to combat the continuing spread of weeds in southwest Montana, primarily because such vehicles are a major cause in the spreading and propagation of weeds. Knap weed has already taken over many of the valley floors and is rapidly forcing its way across the foothills. MWF urges that HB 102 do pass.

NAME: REEVES PETROFF DATE: 1-13-57

ADDRESS: Room 304, Courthouse

PHONE: 585-1354

REPRESENTING WHOM? MONTANA Weed Control Association

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Chet Sinnema DATE: 1-13-87

ADDRESS: 10040 Camp Creek Rd Manhattan, MT 59741

PHONE: (406) 282-7509

REPRESENTING WHOM? SELF

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: the problem of noxious weeds in Montana is out of control. The problem far exceeds the ability of just those in Agriculture to deal with it it is a problem that involves everyone. Any vehicles that moves contribute to the spreading of Noxious weeds an all out effort must be made to halt this infestation. it is imperative that this Bill be passed. with the funding resulting from this legislation will be sorely needed to reverse the problem of Noxious weeds. without proper funding we will lose this battle with weeds and all Montanans will be losers. I urge the committee to recommend the passage of the Bill

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: J. L. Brunner DATE: 1/13/57

ADDRESS: 2015 1/2 9th Avenue

PHONE: 442-2654

REPRESENTING WHOM? Cattle feeders - Farmers Union

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: AB107

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: We wish to support this effort to include one of the prime distributors of feed used in feeding the cattle of the problem they help cause.

We support the amendment offered by the Montana Cattle Development Board to include feed registration in the amendment &

other vehicles - we can see no reason why this would cause problems in doing
Cattle feeders also support the West Extension
Imp Center amendment for feed control -

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Matt Quirk DATE: Jan 3, 1957

ADDRESS: Malrose, Montana 59743

PHONE: 267-3332

REPRESENTING WHOM? Moose Creek Ranch, Inc.

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H.B. 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: _____

If we could get help to spray with
Dieldrin, I'm sure it would be a good
investment, being Dieldrin works for 3 years.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: JAMES STONE DATE: 1/13/87

ADDRESS: Box 380 GREENOUGH MT. 59836

PHONE: 244-5556

REPRESENTING WHOM? QUANDT WOOD BOARD

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HR 103

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: David R. Stewart DATE: 1/13/87

ADDRESS: Box 92 Glenmont.

PHONE: 835-3051

REPRESENTING WHOM? Self- and Snowbird Grazing Assoc.

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H.R. 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: Spreading of weeds seeds are done by
many ways, cars, trucks, and etc. It should
be every ones responsibility to help control them.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: L. Alan Coyle Jr DATE: 1/13/87

ADDRESS: 3402 Cooney

PHONE: 443-5672

REPRESENTING WHOM? Lewis & Clark County WEED District

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H.B. 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: The Lewis & Clark County WEED District wholeheartedly supports H.B. 102. It has been recognized through our MAPPING and inventory that ROADWAYS are primary sites for NOXIOUS WEED occurrence. A registration fee of \$5.50 will greatly help alleviate the problem motor vehicles are helping to cause. The money collected and distributed by the Noxious Weed Trust fund will insure proper and well thought out utilization of the funds towards combating NOXIOUS WEEDS in Montana.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Ray Penney DATE: 1/13/87

ADDRESS: 910 N Warren

PHONE: 442-6853

REPRESENTING WHOM? WIFE / Women Involved In Farm Econ.

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Bill Darrin DATE: 1/13/86

ADDRESS: Box 106 J. Co., Mont 54432

PHONE: 835-3572

REPRESENTING WHOM? Curson Ranch Inc. & S.W. Mont Stockowners-Res.

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? _____

COMMENTS: We have a real threat from noxious weeds
mainly Knoppweed & leafy spurge in southwestern Montana.
The ranchers in the rural area are making a real effort to
control the spread of these weeds, with help from the
County weed boards, Montana Highway Dept, government agencies,
railroad companies & East Pinedale stewardship. Little is being
done in the cities & urban areas for control. Most of the problems
is along roadways & where vehicles travel in carrying the seeds.
Without help of some kind, I don't think we will be able to control
these weeds for long. Since a large portion of the spread is coming
from these vehicles I think that the passing of HB 102 would be
very beneficial to the conservation of Montana, the privilege of
travel on private property and to hold the tax base of Montana.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: E. J. [unclear] DATE: Jan 27 1957

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 177 Green [unclear] 5732

PHONE: 535 3441

REPRESENTING WHOM? [unclear]

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H.R. 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: ... CONTROL ... COOPERATION ... STANDARDS ...

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: PAUL E. NELSON DATE: 1/18/57

ADDRESS: NELSON AVE. S. TULSA

PHONE: 335-3000

REPRESENTING WHOM? ~~Home Plot~~ MILE C. E.

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HOUSE BILL 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? _____

COMMENTS: We are trying to contact the needs
in our county before they take
our own range land.
If they take over the range land then
the tax base will drop.
From the land which we have

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: KATHA FRENCH DATE: 1-13-87

ADDRESS: 2727 So. Hills Dr. Missoula, MT 59803

PHONE: 251-4926

REPRESENTING WHOM? Self

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H.R. 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Gregory Kenneth DATE: 1-13-86

ADDRESS: 5115 Hwy 93 South, Missoula

PHONE: 329-3684

REPRESENTING WHOM? Missoula County Conservation Dist.

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H.B. 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: & Missoula County Conservation District
strongly supports H.B. 102. This bill
would allow a coordinated effort
to develop biological, cultural, mechanical
& educational programs to manage weeds.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: JACK NELSON DATE: 1-15-87

ADDRESS: 142 EAST WINDMILL TRAIL DRUMMOND MISSISSIPPI

PHONE: 208-3487

REPRESENTING WHOM? LOWER GRANITE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H.B. 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? Yes AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? _____

COMMENTS: THIS IS A MUST TO CONTROL THE NOXIOUS WEEDS
THAT HAVE INVADED OUR LANDS IN MISSISSIPPI.
THE PROBLEM IS SO GREAT TO BE MET BY AN
INDIVIDUAL AND MUST BE ADDRESSED NOW.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: JOSEPH FERRARIE DATE: 1-13-87

ADDRESS: 13 NEW CHICAGO ROAD DUNMONT MONT

PHONE: 322-3539

REPRESENTING WHOM? GRANITE COUNTY WOOD DISTRICT

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HOUSE BILL 107

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: I feel we need help to combat the
problem caused. In most woodlands don't have
the resources to do it alone. Also a lot of
work was spread by law, trucks, game animals
and etc.

I feel this will be an all effort on the
part of everyone. Trucking groups on this land.
And more work was shown or done in some
wood right away. just land & etc.
page 4 volume

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: R. H. Murphy DATE: 1/13/57

ADDRESS: 471 W. 3rd St. West Lawrence MA 01840

PHONE: 546-2625

REPRESENTING WHOM? Self

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: House Bill 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: I feel this is a good proposal to raise some money to fund wood projects and by funding the Wood Trust fund it will be matched dollar for dollar with private money. The obvious wood problem is not just a lumber problem, but there has been very little help from the rest of the people who use & enjoy the big sky country - No help to speak of from Federal Govt. I sincerely urge your support of the Bill. Thank you
R. H. Murphy

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Tom McGowan DATE: Jan 13 1977

ADDRESS: Box 17 Hill, Mont

PHONE: 288-3343

REPRESENTING WHOM? Granite Co. Weed Board

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: The revenue from this bill
is needed to start and help support
organized weed control measures on
range land in Montana.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Dave Pilcett HB
 ADDRESS 610 GREENACRES DRIVE, BUTTE BILL NO. 102
 WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT? Butte - Silver Bow Weed Board DATE 1/13/87
 SUPPORT ✓ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

Bill is a equitable way to raise money for priority weed control efforts statewide. Vehicles are a major factor in the spread of weeds, and should play at least a small part in control program funding. This is a fair tax.

I favor putting this revenue into the Weed Trust Fund as opposed to county by county distribution because:

1. This is the only way any funding will go for development of biological control efforts.

2. The Advisory Council has done an excellent job of identifying high priority control needs on a statewide basis. Their policy of requiring matching funds from local sources assures the money will go as far as possible

3. Split among counties, the dollar amounts will be so small in most cases that

it will tend to merely replace locally raised funds, and not have the needed statewide impact.

Just as competent local control efforts target priority areas, the state must also have some funds to target areas to prevent weed spread and to fund projects which are beyond the ability of local boards to handle, such as biological control. The Council has funded numerous biological projects.

This program (The Trust Fund) is setting a good example for all landowners and is encouraging more participation in control each year. This includes State and Federal agencies. In Butte, we have excellent cooperation from FWP, FS, BLM and the Dept. of Highways. We find that for each project funded, several adjoining areas will see the success and develop effective coordinated control programs in their area.

I urge you to keep the legislation simple, allocate a reasonable level of funds, and let the Advisory Council do the best job of using the funds statewide. Since the fund was established, the Council has demonstrated excellent ability to do this.

NAME: Neil E. Petersen DATE: 1/13/86

ADDRESS: Box 241, Stevidon, MT 59749

PHONE: 843-5117

REPRESENTING WHOM? Madison Co Weed Control District

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H B 102

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: County presently is in the process of
implement a Area 3 weed specific Grant Agreement.
The Cooperative program has been in operation for 15
months. In a word it is and does "work" for controlling
noxious weeds. Landholders within the area are cooperating.
Specific - Area covers 41,500 Acres, Expenditures to date
12/31/85; State Funds - \$34,447, In-kind Matching -
\$45,500 at a ratio of 1:1.32. 35 Cooperative Agreement
in operation. Area treated 1986 - 1300 Acres. Inspirex
is the target weed.

The Coop. Agreement does increase Public awareness &
involvement. It also provides the machinery for County's
to undertake similar County-sponsored Program, which
the Madison Co is proposing for 1987.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME Harold Johns BILL NO. 102
ADDRESS Butte DATE 1-13-
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT? Extension Service
SUPPORT OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

In the past Montana did not have weeds with the capability to take over rangeland. We now have such weeds.

Prevention via organized efforts by all landowners is the only workable solution.

This proposal is reasonable and inexpensive in terms of what the cost to our state will be if we do nothing at this time.

VISITORS' REGISTER

TAXATION

COMMITTEE

BILL NO. HB 91

DATE Jan 13, 1987

SPONSOR Hayne

| NAME (please print) | RESIDENCE | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------|--------|
| | | ✓ | ✗ |
| Ann... .. | Helena | ✓ | |
| Joe... .. | Helena | ✓ | |
| Ray Norrberg | Helena | ✓ | |
| Debi Brammer | MHCD | X | |
| Loral Mashek | Mt. Kettle Home | X | |
| DAVID HARTMAN - MOTA | HELENA | ✓ | |
| Bruce W Mercer | Helena - MSBA | X | |
| Terry Murphy | GP Falls - MT Farmers Union | X | |
| Bob Stephens | MCCA, Dulton | X | |
| Nina Barnes | President - Agdm MT Sch | X | |
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IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT FORM

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE TAXATION COMMITTEE

BILL NO. HB 102

DATE Jan. 13, 1987

SPONSOR Grady

| NAME (please print) | RESIDENCE | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| PAUL EVETTINE | MELROSE MOUNT | X | |
| Bill Darrin | Deer Mount | X | |
| Franz Brackley | North River MT | X | |
| Don Stoddard | Wise River MT | X | |
| Jim Tom Beck | Deer Mount | X | |
| Robert Anderson | Helena | X | |
| Daniel M... | Helena | X | |
| JAMES STONE | QUANAH | X | |
| Estelle Anderson | Quana | X | |
| Agnes ... | Quana | X | |
| John Althaus | Shenandoah | X | |
| Neil B. Peterson | Shenandoah | X | |
| Ron ... | Shenandoah | X | |
| Dopi Brummer | Helena (MAGID) | X | |
| Carol Nester | Tit. Cattle Horse | X | |
| Lorna Frank | Mt. Fairview | X | |
| GEORGE CCHENSKI | MT. ENV. INF. CNTR | X | with involvement |
| Bill Hiatt | Lewis + Clark Univ | X | |
| Reeves PETROFF | MT Univ Central Univ | X | |

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

| | | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------|--------|
| DOUGLAS, K. SCHMITZ | JEFFERSON CITY | ✓ | |
| Carol Honan | Oakland | ✓ | |
| William D. Holtz | Helena | ✓ | |
| Esther Starbuck | Mt. Wildlife Fed. | ✓ | |
| John A. Wick | Butte Silver and Lead Co. | | ✓ |

VISITORS' REGISTER

TAXATION

COMMITTEE

BILL NO. HB 102

DATE Jan 13, 1987

SPONSOR Grady

| NAME (please print) | RESIDENCE | SUPPORT | OPPOSE |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------|--------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Angell Miller | Helena | ✓ | |
| J. Brown | Helena | ✓ | |
| Walter Stengraber | Willow-Creek | ✓ | |
| Jeannet Rethel | Willow Creek | ✓ | |
| Chet Linneme | Manhattan | ✓ | |
| E. Maynard Smith | Glen Mt. | ✓ | |
| Larry Benberg | Helena | ✓ | |
| Joe Pettit | Wood Board - Butte | ✓ | |
| David A Stewart | Glen Mt. | ✓ | |
| John Menden | Drummond Mt | ✓ | |
| Bill Dwyer | Helena Mt | ✓ | |
| Larry Hunter | Helena MT | ✓ | |
| Joseph Karlovic | Drummond Mt | ✓ | |
| Jack Nelson | DRUMMOND MOUNT | ✓ | |
| Bob Montgomery | DRUMMOND MT | ✓ | |
| Tom McLean | Hel MT | ✓ | |
| Matt Wick | Melrose, MT | ✓ | |

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

HB 102

Lorna Frank, W. V. Farm Bureau support.

~~Bill Hires~~

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Ferry Murphy | MT Farmers Union | Support |
| Bob Stephens | mt. Iron Works Co. | Support |
| Stuart Dayhoff | MT Chamber of Commerce | Support |
| Don Allen | MT Wood Products Assoc. | Support |
| Mike Mason | WEA | Support |
| Robert Garner | APR | Support |
| Ted Dodge | BITTE | Support |